


COMMISSIONERS APPROVAL

GRANDSTAFF 

ROKOSCH

THOMPSON 

CHILCOTT 

DRISCOLL 

PLETTENBERG (Clerk & Recorder)

Date.....May 9, 2008

Members Present.....Commissioner Jim Rokosch, Commissioner Alan Thompson, Commissioner Greg Chilcott and Commissioner Kathleen Driscoll

Minutes: Glenda Wiles

► Commissioner Carlotta Grandstaff was in Salt Lake City attending a Western Institute Leadership Conference.

► The Board held budget hearings with the Treasurer and Clerk of Court.

► The Board met with State Senator Jim Shockley in regard to Senator Shockley's concern over the Commissioners having their own Civil Counsel by sub-contract, rather than utilizing a Deputy County Attorney as their Civil Counsel. Senator Shockley stated County Attorney George Corn has expressed the need for another Deputy Attorney, and while Senator Shockley does not disagree with the need due to the growth and laws being more complicated as of late; he did express his concern over the Civil Attorney having two bosses, i.e. the County Attorney and the Commissioners.

Senator Shockley felt a sub-contracted Civil Attorney could give better services and advise to the Commissioners because that attorney would not be pulled into other tasks by the County Attorney. He stated if an issue were to go to enforcement action, the case could be given to the County Attorney's Office for prosecution.

Discussion included the history of utilizing Deputy County Attorney's and a sub-contracted Attorney. The Board indicated they would review this issue amongst themselves, taking in mind the cost of sub-contracting those legal services.

A short discussion took place about the zoning issue in the county and the second draft review for regulations.

► The Board met to award the weed spraying on the right-of-ways associated with the Montana Department of Transportation Highways within Ravalli County. Present were Weed Coordinator Kellieann Morris and Dan Dunagan of Bitterroot Spraying, LLC, who was the sole bidder on this work to be performed. Kellieann indicated Mr. Dunagan's bid was within \$20.00 of their calculations and also noted the Weed District recommended Bitterroot Spraying, LLC be awarded this bid. Kellieann also submitted a letter to the Commissioners expressing concern about the amount of acres throughout the treatment areas differing from the proposed bid. She stated it is not their goal to broadcast spray the chemical across the whole road side where noxious weeds do not exist. Zone 1 for the most part of this year's work is fairly clean of noxious weeds except for certain areas around Highway 93 from south of Florence to Stevensville in the newer construction where all areas need treatment from the road edge to the fence line. She further noted the Weed District has sprayed Zone 1 for many years and as a result poor grasses and vegetation fail to exist. She stated she and the Weed Board want the spot treatment as a priority for noxious weeds in Zone 2; however Zone 2 is a higher priority this year.

Kellieann stated she discussed this issue with Mr. Dunagan and he has a clear understanding of the treatment of these zones.

Glenda noted she will include this letter in regard to zone treatments in the recorded contract. Mr. Dunagan also received a copy of this letter and agreed with Kellieann's recommendation.

Commissioner Chilcott made a motion to award the Right-of-ways spraying bid to Bitterroot Spraying, LLC. Commissioner Driscoll seconded the motion and all voted "aye".

Mr. Dunagan stated if he can trim his bid to help the Weed Budget he will do so.

► The Board met to award the Financial Audit. Present was Comptroller Jana Exner. Jana noted these bids were emailed to Internal Auditor Klarryse Murphy for her review. Klarryse recommended the County stay with Auditor Ron Foltz even though he was \$2,500.00 higher in cost than Nichole Newman. Discussion included Commissioner Chilcott's comment that \$2,500.00 is quite a bit of money and if the Nichole had worked previously on the county's auditing under a different firm and the county was pleased with her work, there would be no reason to doubt she couldn't do a good job on this Fiscal Year's audit. He also noted the bid requirements give certain specifications, such as the date of completion that Nichole has agreed to abide by. **Due to Klarryse Murphy's absence, Commissioner Chilcott made a motion to continue this decision until May 13th at 8:45 a.m. Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion and all voted "aye".**